

December 10, 2007

**MR. JOSE MANUEL ROMUALDEZ**  
Columnist, The Philippine Star

Dear Sir;

On December 5, 2007, Philippine Star came up with a news item on the statement of KARAPATAN human rights group, that not a single suspect in cases involving unexplained disappearances and enforced disappearances, or extrajudicial killings, numbering 887, has ever been convicted or sent to jail. The report, which covered almost half of an entire page of your paper, save for the advertisements, was utterly inaccurate and exaggerated. Hence, we prepared a press statement correcting the said report, and furnished a copy thereof to your paper. However, our said statement did not appear on your paper's issues on the following days, that is, December 6 & 7. So we again gave a copy of the same statement on the latter date. Unfortunately, we have yet to read about our rebuttal of KARAPATAN's inaccurate and exaggerated report.

Please find attached to this letter a copy of our said press statement. Thank you very much and looking forward to your balance treatment of this issue.

Very truly yours,

**USEC. RICARDO R. BLANCAFLOR**  
*Head, Task Force on Political Violence*  
*("Task Force 211")*